

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the abstract as follows:

A humidifying device (10), for humidifying a gas with the water vapor contained in air, ~~comprises:~~  
~~having~~ a hollow fiber bundle (14) formed by bundling a plurality of hollow fibers (14a) permeable  
by water vapor, the hollow fibers being orientated in a direction of a predetermined axis; a housing  
(12) having a space for accommodating the hollow fiber bundle (14), and having an introduction  
port (12a)-for the gas to be humidified, communicating to bores of the hollow fibers, a discharging  
port (12b)-for the gas to be humidified, communicating to the interior spaces of the hollow fibers, an  
air inlet (12e)-communicating to a space in the housing external of the hollow fibers, and an air exit  
(12d)-communicating to the space in the housing external of the hollow fibers; and blowing  
~~means~~~~section~~ (16)-arranged at the air inlet (12e) of the housing for introducing air into the housing,  
~~wherein a ratio between a sum of the cross-sectional areas of the hollow fibers taken along a plane~~  
~~perpendicular to the axis, and the cross-sectional area of an air passage, is set within a range from~~  
~~0.1 to 0.7, the cross-sectional area of the air passage being obtained by subtracting the sum of the~~  
~~cross-sectional areas of the hollow fibers from the cross-sectional area of the space of the housing~~  
~~(12) taken along a plane perpendicular to the axis.~~